

Attorney Docket No. 1-74127

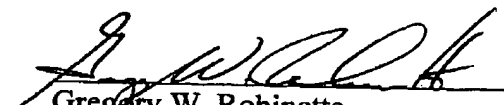
REMARKS

The courtesy of the Examiner in granting Richard S. MacMillan and the undersigned attorney a personal interview on January 25, 2006 is gratefully acknowledged. During that interview, Independent Claims 21 and 32 were discussed in light of the Sanchez et al. and Van Ert et al. references.

It was discussed that the references are not combinable because the Sanchez et al. reference relates to a method of eliminating curl and fabric distortion in a laminate, and, in contrast, the Van Ert et al. reference relates to a method of forming a headliner having two layers, i.e., forming a laminate. It was also discussed that even if combined, the Sanchez et al. and Van Ert et al. references do not show or suggest the invention as claimed. It was further discussed that by amending step (b) of Claims 21 and 32 to recite "melting only a portion of the thermoplastic material," Claims 21 and 32 would define over the art discussed. Specifically, it was discussed that the Sanchez et al. reference does not teach bonding materials and that the Van Ert et al. reference teaches that a laminate (i.e. a headliner) may be formed by heating or applying an adhesive to the entire surface of a substrate, then applying a cover layer to the entire surface of the substrate. The Van Ert et al. reference does not teach or suggest melting only a portion of the thermoplastic material, as claimed. The examiner further agreed to consider this Supplemental Amendment clarifying the invention as discussed.

As noted in the Examiner Interview Summary Record dated February 6, 2006, the Examiner states that Claim 21, as originally submitted, is broader than the limitation discussed (i.e. "melting only a portion of the thermoplastic material"), and further notes that the applicants will file a Supplemental Amendment further clarifying the invention.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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